



# Habitat Improvement\* by State: Fiscal Year 2009

(Acres/Sites/Miles Riparian)



Acres/Sites/Miles Riparian  
47,483 acres/341 sites/37 miles riparian  
in the Southeast Region

Information:  
<http://southeast.fws.gov/partners>  
404/679 7138

\*Habitat Improvement includes restoration,  
enhancement and establishment.

## Habitat Improvement Summary (1988-2009)

State	AL	AR	PR*	FL	GA	KY	LA	MS	NC	SC	TN	Total
Acres	115,551	56,476	4,603	66,858	19,438	3,064	71,815	124,610	25,333	30,442	6,985	525,175
Sites	266	587	136	299	296	98	394	906	322	134	167	3,605

\*Commonwealth



*Education and outreach are important components of our longleaf pine initiative.*



*Improving stream habitat and monitoring our success.*



*Inspecting a prescribed burn in a longleaf pine restoration effort.*



*Working with our partners in the Caribbean.*

#### Other Habitat Restoration Factoids:

- A Strategic Plan (SP) for the PFW Program in the Southeast Region was completed in 2009, in collaboration with our partners. Most PFW projects completed in FY 2009 were targeted to priority geographic focus areas identified and described in the SP. The SP can be viewed and downloaded at:

<http://www.fws.gov/es/partners/strategicplan.html>

- In fiscal year 2009, the Service entered into 340 new partnership agreements with private landowners and other conservation groups.
- Approximately 12,043 acres of wetland projects were completed, including 1,032 acres of bottomland trees (an endangered habitat type; 85% or greater historic decline) planted in the Lower Mississippi River Ecosystem.

- Over 263,000 acres of wetlands, including 122,000 acres of bottomland trees have been restored since 1988. Projects that benefit migratory birds and the threatened Louisiana black bear are a priority.

- Upland habitat improvement projects totaled approximately 35,282 acres, of which about 33,000 acres were longleaf pine projects and 1,170 acres were native grasslands.



*Restoring wetlands in the Lower Mississippi Alluvial Valley.*

- Approximately 204,000 acres of longleaf pine restoration plantings and management activities (an endangered ecosystem type; 85-98% historic decline) were implemented in Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi and the Carolinas since 1996. These projects provide benefits to several protected species, including the red-cockaded woodpecker, eastern indigo snake, and gopher tortoise.

- Riparian and in-stream restoration projects (over 37 miles of streams) benefitted numerous protected and sensitive aquatic species. Over 1,300 miles of riparian, and 34 miles of in-stream habitat projects have been carried out since 1994.

- Since 1996, approximately 10,200 acres of native prairie and grasslands have been restored or enhanced.

- Since 2000, over 75,000 acres of projects regionwide were directed toward the elimination of exotics and invasive species with a goal of restoring the native vegetative types. These projects are expected to provide benefits to numerous threatened, endangered, and other species.

- Partners voluntarily contributed over \$4.6 million of services in FY 2009.

- The Service provides important technical assistance to the Natural Resources Conservation Agency and other Federal and State agencies and conservation groups in implementing Farm Bill conservation programs.

- For example, in fiscal year 2009, over 30,000 acres were reviewed under the Wetland Reserve Program and over 300 other Service technical assistance consultations were provided to private landowners and other agencies.